(c) to (e) From the list of qualified candidates, five have so far been appointed as Stenographers. Ten other candidates have been sent offers of appointment and are expected to join shortly. The remaining 14 candidates will be given the offer of appointment on the completion of the requisite administrative formalities, which are in progress.

Allotment of Departmental Accommodation in DAE

8135. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employe es of the Department of Atomic Energy planned and observed a day's dharna recently in front of the office of the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission at Bombay in protest against the arbitrary, unilateral and illegal amendment to the allotment rules for departmental accommodation;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to avert this situation and to concede to the reasonable demands of the employees of the Department of Atomic Energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) On 19.4.95 some employees of the Department of Atomic Energy organised one day dharna in front of Department of Atomic Energy Secretariat at Bombay from 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. which was peaceful. The main demand was withdrawal of the Office Memorandum which was issued by the Department of Atomic Energy on 29.3.1995 amending certain provisions of existing Allotment of Government Residences (DAE) Bombay Rules, 1982.

(b) and (c) The office memoranda dated 29.3.95 and 10.4.95 amending existing provisions of Allotment of government Residences (DAE) Bombay Rules, 1982 issued by the Department of Atomic Energy were put on a temporary hold and the various Associations/Unions have been requested to furnish their comments by 31.5.1995.

Uranium Processing in Meghalaya

8136. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 588 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Uranium including Thorium-234 found at three different locations in Meghalaya is being processed to produce sizeable quantity of yellow cake;

(b) whether in view of the large and valuable deposits of Uranium in Meghalaya, Government would formulate a time bound scheme for its proper exploitation with the involvement of Uranium Corporation of India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure adequate security to the Mining operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) No, Sir. Presently, no processing for uranium and thorium is being carried out in Meghalaya.

(b) and (c) The Uranium Corporation of India Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy has been entrusted with the responsibility of preparing a Detailed Project Report for the setting up of a project for the mining and milling of uranium ore in the Domiasiat area of Meghalaya.

(d) Security arrangements have been tightened. It is not in the public interest to reveal the details of the arrangements.